



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

March 18, 2008

The Honorable Board of Directors
Los Angeles County
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE CITIES AND COMPETITIVE EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE
FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT TO THE CITIES OF SOUTH PASADENA AND
PALMDALE, AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION
OF EXCESS FUNDS GRANTS AND AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR TO REIMBURSE
THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA FOR COSTS INCURRED PRIOR TO EXECUTION
OF A PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR THE PROJECT
(FIFTH DISTRICT - 3 VOTE MATTER)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find the proposed actions exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, for the reasons cited herein.
2. Allocate Cities Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District in the amount of \$150,000 to the City of South Pasadena for the Track and Field Replacement Project at South Pasadena High School.
3. Allocate Competitive Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District in the amount of \$55,000 to the City of Palmdale to add a storm drain and additional trail repairs to its Barrel Springs Trails Enhancement Project.
4. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants to the cities of South Pasadena and Palmdale when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grants as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Projects.

5. Authorize the Director to reimburse the City of South Pasadena for costs incurred prior to the execution of the grant project agreement for the Track and Field Replacement Project.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$150,000 in Cities Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District to the City of South Pasadena for the replacement of an old track and field facility at South Pasadena High School.

The new track and field facility, made from artificial materials, replaces a dirt track and natural grass playing field. The total cost for the project is estimated at \$2,925,247 which includes the recommended \$150,000 in Cities Excess funds, \$1.5 million in Measure M School Bond funds, \$775,747 collected from individuals, foundations and local service organizations, \$100,000 in a grant from the San Gabriel Valley Water District and \$399,500 in private donations. The City and South Pasadena Unified School District will enter into a joint use agreement that will provide for public recreational use of the new track and field complex when school is not in session.

The recommended actions will allocate \$55,000 in Competitive Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District to the City of Palmdale for additional trail repair and for a storm drain to prevent soil erosion as part of its Barrel Springs Trails Enhancement Project. On November 21, 2006, as part of a competitive trails grant program, your Board approved the allocation of \$150,000 to the City of Palmdale for repair of fences, posts and signage along the existing trail, modification of a traffic signal push button, construction of approximately 650 feet of additional trail improvements and placement of a portable restroom for trail users within Tejon Park. The City elected to delete the restroom from the project and the \$150,000 allocation was reduced in the resulting grant to \$95,000. The City now wishes to substitute the additional trail repair and storm drain and requests the restoration of \$55,000 to the project and increase the total project budget back to \$150,000.

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the 1992 and 1996 Propositions encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. Both cities have met this requirement.

It is also recommended that the Director of Parks and Recreation be authorized to award the grants to the two cities when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996

Proposition, as well as grantee agreement with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the projects, and to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by your Board.

Finally, since a portion of the project costs for the South Pasadena Track and Field Replacement Project were incurred prior to the execution of a grant project agreement for the funds, your Board's approval would be required to allow the Director to reimburse the City of South Pasadena for these expenditures.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal No. 1 (Service Excellence), Goal No. 4 (Fiscal Responsibility), Goal No. 5 (Children and Families' Well-being), and Goal No. 6 (Community Services) by allocating Excess Funds for projects to enhance recreational opportunities in the Cities of South Pasadena and Palmdale in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants in the amount of \$205,000 is budgeted in the Fifth Supervisorial District portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grants would be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District from Excess Funds for cities and competitive projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation would be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

Your Board approved a Procedural Guide on June 17, 1997, to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District grants for Specified and Per Parcel projects. This Procedural Guide would appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants as well.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director of Parks and Recreation and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 1997. The Project Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended projects will enhance recreational opportunities in the Cities of South Pasadena and Palmdale in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District are required to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The South Pasadena Unified School District is the lead agency for the Track and Field Replacement Project at South Pasadena High School. The City of Palmdale is the lead agency for the Barrel Springs Trails Enhancement Project.

The proposed administrative actions are not subject to CEQA in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Sections 15378 (b)(4)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines because the actions are administrative activities for government grants which by their terms do not involve any commitments at this time to any specific projects which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

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CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", written in a cursive style.

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPOCEDISTRICT(SOUTH PASADENA 7 PALMDALE BL)

c: Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)
County Counsel